EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Against the sanctioned strength of 860 regular teaching posts in 30 Kendriya Vidyalayas of Orissa, 831 are in position. Occurence of vacancies due to retirement, promotions, transfers and creation of new posts etc. and their filling up is a continuous process.

Setting up of Recruitment Centres for Army in Rajasthan

786. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish recruitment centres in Barmer or Jaisalmer and Churu districts of Rajasthan respectively for the recruitment of young deserving candidates in the Army;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Districts of Barmer and Jaisalmer are adequately covered for recruitment in Army by Branch Recruiting Office, Jodhpur. District Churu is similarly covered by Branch Recruiting Office, Jhunjhunu.

[Translation]

Maintenance of NH 28 and 31

787. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to hand over the work of strengthening and maintenance of National Highway Nos. 28 and 31 to private companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G.VENKATARAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Telephone Connections

788. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the applicants have to wait for more than one year for the telephone connections even in those areas where telephone exchanges have adequate capacity to provide the telephone connections;

(b) if so, the number of such applicants alongwith the names of telephone exchanges and the action being taken by the Government to provide telephone connections immediately; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government against the officials responsible for this situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Complaints

789. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints received against Group-A officers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Headquarters and Delhi region during 1996-97 and 1997-98, till date;

(b) whether action has been taken in each of these cases; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

Cleaning of Gangotri

790. KUMARI UMABHARATI:

SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH:

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Institute of Mountaineering and a mountaineering organisation of Italy has signed a treaty for the cleaning of Gangotri;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated amount likely to be incurred on the said work and the time by which this work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Government is unaware of any Institution by the name of Indian Institute of Mountaineering and is also unaware of any treaty signed between this Institute and a mountaineering organisation of Italy.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Helmet for Pillion Riders

791. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision

to make it mandatory for pillion riders to wear the helmet in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government have not taken any decision in this regard. However, as per Section 129 Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, every person driving or riding on a motor cycle of any class or description shall, while in a public place, wear a protective gear conforming to the standards of Bureau of India Standards. Further, a person who is a Sikh, wearing a turban has been exempted from the above provision of the Act. In addition, the State Government have been empowered to provide for such exceptions as they may think fit.

Modernisation of Navigational Facilities on Ports

492. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the modernisation of existing navigational facilities at the ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATARAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Water Crisis in Delhi

793. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capital is likely to face a servere water crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. After signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Uttar Pradesh, and National Capital Territory of Delhi regarding allocation of sufrace flow of Yamuna on 12.5.1994, the capital is not likely to face a severe water crisis in the forseeable future.

(c) (i) Upper Yamuna River Board is regulating allocation of available flows of river Yamuna amongst the beneficiary States within the overall framework of the MoU since April, 1995. In any year when the availability of water in Yamuna is less than the assessed quantity, first the drinking water allocation of Delhi is met and the balance is distributed amongst Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh in proporation to their allocations.

(ii) In order to receive more raw water at Delhi a scheme for construction of a parallel lined channel from Munak to Delhi has been finalised by Govt. of NCT of Delhi for execution through Government of Haryana.

(iii) Government of NCT of Delhi is constructing additional water treatment plants, tubewells and ranneywells to enhance its capability to produce more potable water.

(iv) Augmenting water supply for Delhi is planned from Tehri dam, Renuka dam and Kishu dam projects.

Port at Dahanu in Maharashtra

794. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Port at Dahanu will ruin the fragile eco-system' appearing in The Times of India, dated October 6, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A reference was made to Ministry of Environment & Forests in May, 1996 by M/s. Amma Lines Limited and in May, 1997 by P & O Ports regarding the proposed Port at Vadhavan, Dahanu Taluka in Maharashtra. However, no detailed proposal as per the prescribed procedure has been received in the Ministry.

(c) The project proponents have been requested to apply through the State Government to Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority which was constituted as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court to deal with all the relevant environmental issues pertaining to Dahanu Taluka. The State Government has also been advised that no preliminary action should be taken by way of construction or otherwise at the proposed site pending detailed examination of the proposal by the Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority and this Ministry.

[Translation]

Role of NGOs

795. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the NGOs working in the field of human resource development; State-wise;

(b) whether any agency has been constituted to look into the prevailing corruption in these organisations; and